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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE.

Applicants: Ryouichi KOGA et al. Group Art Unit: 3751

Appln. No. : 10/554,624 Examiner: Karen YOUNKINS

(U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/097125)

I.A. Filed: April 27, 2004 Confirmation No.: 7272

For : NOZZLE DEVICE AND HYGIENIC WASHING DEVICE

SUBMISSION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.114

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria V A 22314

In response to the Official Action dated November 20, 2009, setting a shortened three-month statutory period for response to expire on February 22, 2010 (February 20, 2010 being a Saturday), and further to the accompanying Request for Continued Examination, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objection and rejection in view of the herein-contained remarks. However, if any extension of time is necessary, this is an express request for any necessary extension of time and authorization to charge any required extension of time fee or any other fees which may be required to preserve the pendency of the present application to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 2 of this document.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 4 of this document.

Remarks begin on page 19 of this document.